

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, and 9 have been amended. Claims 1-13 are currently pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,061,698, issued to Chadha (Chadha).

Chadha is directed to a method and processor for linking a dynamic data fetch command to a document file. The document file is linked with a data script file including the command by a linkage tool. See Chadha, column 3, lines 41-51.

In Chadha (US6, 061, 698), a final document is made by at least three instructions. In particular, the first instruction is a search command for searching for the area to be modified. The second instruction is a command for linking the selected identifier and identified area. That is, the second instruction is for selecting a script file to be linked to the identified area. The second instruction is input by user selection (see step 45 in Fig. 3). The third instruction is the fetch command in the selected script file. The fetch command is to be executed to make a final document. Thus, in Chadha, plural distributed instructions are needed. If a user wants to modify the final document, the user has to make a new script file, reselect the new script file, substitute the newly selected script file for the previously selected script file, and execute the fetch command in the newly selected script file.

Alternatively, even if the desired script file is being predefined, the user has to reselect the new script file, substitute the newly selected script file for the previously selected script file, and execute the fetch command in the newly selected script file.

In contrast, in at least one embodiment of the present invention, an original document can be modified by one instruction. If a user wants to modify the original document, the user need only modify the instruction (program). According to the present invention, since the original document does not have a script file embedded therein, it is possible to configure and manage the original document and the instruction (program) separately.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 6, and 9 are patentable over the reference, as the reference fails to disclose, “. . . the instruction causes a document modifying apparatus to identify one or more areas in the original document specified by the identification in said instruction and modify said identified areas in a manner defined by said instruction.” The reference also does not disclose, “receiving an instruction included in a program which is not embedded in the original document.”

According to the present invention, reconfiguring the instruction (program) suffices even if the way to make a modified document must be changed. In contrast, in Chadha, in order to make a modified document, many procedures, such as selecting a linkage identifier, changing the place where the linkage identifier is added, and reconfiguring the script file, are necessary.

In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over the reference. As dependent claims 2-3 depend from claim 1 and claim 7 depends from claim 6, the dependent claims are also patentable over the reference.

As Homer and Popp add nothing to Chadha, claims 5, 8, and 9-12 are patentable over the references, as none of the references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of the claims.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

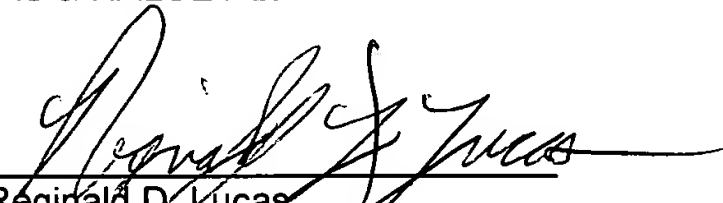
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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